



# Farm Service Agency

WASHINGTON/CLARK COUNTY FSA NEWSLETTER

AUG 2006

## AgrAbility of Utah

### County Information

#### Address:

196 E. Tabernacle,  
Room 16  
St. George, UT 84770

#### Phone Numbers:

435-673-2381  
435-673-0312 Fax

#### Staff:

Steve Lawrence, CED  
Doug Hansen, FLO  
Karen Reber, PT

#### Office Hours:

Monday – Friday  
8:00 am-4:30 pm

#### County Committee:

Bud Scow  
Glen Hardy  
John H. Bowler  
David Hafen  
Shirlene Hall

Chairperson  
Vice-Chairperson  
Member  
Member  
Advisor



### 2006 COC Elections

FSA's relationship with farmers and ranchers goes back to the 1930's. At that time, Congress set up a unique system under which Federal farm programs were to be administered locally. Farmers and ranchers who are eligible to participate in these programs elect a three to five person County Committee, which reviews county office operations and makes some of the decisions on how to apply the programs. The grassroots approach gives farmers and ranchers a much needed say in how Federal actions affect their communities and their individual operations. After more than 60 years, it remains a cornerstone of FSA's efforts to preserve and promote American Agriculture

**August 1, 2006:** Was the last day to file nominations for LAA-3 (Hurricane/LaVerkin, Rockville, Springdale, Virgin area)

**November 3, 2006:** Ballots mailed to eligible voters.

**December 4, 2006:** Last Day to return voted ballots.

Two nominations were received by August 1, 2006. They are **John Wadsworth and Bruce Walter Church**. These two individuals will be running on the ballot this fall.

AgrAbility of Utah is part of a national program administered through the USDA. AgrAbility focuses on promoting independence for members of the agricultural community who have disabilities resulting from injury, illness, age or other causes. AgrAbility offers opportunities to persons of all ages and connects individuals to a network of service providers, product suppliers, and product manufacturers in order to provide education, information, services and support.

AgrAbility of Utah is administered by the Utah State University's Agricultural Systems Technology and Education Department, USU Extension, the Center for Persons with Disabilities, and the Association for Independent Living of Utah.

#### Types of assistance available include:

- Agricultural work-site analysis.
- Farm/Home accessibility survey.
- Environmental modifications.
- Equipment adaptation and modification.
- Information and referral
- Facilitation of independent living.
- Individual advocacy
- Peer support
- Coordination of community service
- Education
- Agricultural safety workshops to prevent further injuries.

If you or someone you know could use some assistance in making your farm or ranch operation easier because of a disability, please contact this office or:



## Non-Insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP)

Producers who have their crops or grazing land insured under NAP are reminded that a **Notice of Loss, form CCC 576, should be filed within 15 days of the disaster occurrence or date damage to the crop is apparent.**



### Emergency Loans

Emergency Loans in Washington & Clark Counties for eligible drought losses have been made available to producers. For further information, contact Doug Hansen at 435-586-7274. Ext. 15. Secretarial Designation

### Dates to Remember

Today	Sign-up for 2006 DCP
Today	File Late Acreage Reports - \$20 Fee. It is mandatory for an Acreage Report to Participate in Most Programs!
August 22	COC Meeting
September 4	Closed Labor Day
September 11 and 12	Office will be Closed for Meetings
September 19	COC Meeting
October 17	COC Meeting
November 3	Ballots Mailed out
November 24	Closed Thanksgiving
December 4	Last day to Return Ballots

## Be Counted! On the 2007 Census of Agriculture

The 2002 Census of Agriculture counted 2.2 million farms and ranches in the United States. That was down 15% from the 2.6 million farms and ranches counted in 1974. What changes are in store for the future of agriculture in our county? It is important that all operators are again counted in the 2007 Census of Agriculture to show their contribution to the entire U.S. agricultural industry.

Every farm and ranch in the nation can expect to receive a mailed Census questionnaire in December 2007. To get an accurate count for 2007, USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service must receive a completed report for every farm and ranch in the U.S. The Census is the only source of uniform agricultural data for every county in the U.S. and provides a complete statistical picture of U.S. farms and ranches every five years.

How can YOU benefit from responding to the Census of Agriculture? Here are some possibilities:

- Producers can negotiate for more competitive market prices because they have the same facts as buyers.
- Farm organizations use the data to evaluate and propose policies and programs that help the agricultural producer.
- Farm service providers can anticipate needs and be more responsive to producers.
- Colleges and universities use census data in research programs aimed at increasing agricultural production and profitability.
- State departments of agriculture use census data to better serve farmers and ranchers during drought and emergency outbreaks of diseases or infestations of pests.

- U Rural electric companies use census data to forecast future energy needs for the agricultural producer and the communities they live in.
- SDA uses census data to help evaluate participation of farmers and ranchers in its programs and services.
- Elected representatives use the data to develop farm policies and programs to protect and promote U.S. agriculture.
- Public and private analysts make extensive use of census data in projecting and evaluating results of agricultural programs and events.

The information you provide on the Census is kept confidential by law, Title 7, U.S. Code, and will not be disclosed to any other government or private entity.

For more information about the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) or the Census of Agriculture, including complete results of the 2002 census, visit our website at [www.nass.usda.gov](http://www.nass.usda.gov) or call NASS's Utah Field Office in Salt Lake City at 1-800-747-8522.

## Farm Loan Assistance

Need temporary credit? Maybe we can help. FSA makes and guarantees loans to farmers and ranchers who are temporarily unable to obtain private commercial credit.

These may be beginning farmers who can't qualify for conventional loans because of insufficient net worth, or established farmers who have a lack of cash flow to meet bank standards.

Everyone needs financial help sometime. Perhaps FSA can help you with our loan programs and services to meet your farming needs.

Please call our office for more information.

## 2006 Loan Deficiency Payments (LDP's)

Loan Deficiency Payments on commodities are made when the Posted County Price for the commodity falls below the loan rate. LDP payment rates can change each day with the market. As harvest progresses producers need to check with our office to check on the daily LDP rate. LDP rates can also be checked on the internet at <http://www.fsa.usda.gov>

If you will be selling your commodity directly from the field, make sure that you have signed a CCC-633EZ before harvest begins or you will be ineligible for an LDP. If you are going to store the commodity, you can request to take your LDP anytime after harvest.

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To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Office of Civil Rights, Room 326-W, Whitten Building, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C., 20250-9410, or call (202) 720-5964 (voice and TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

USDA - Farm Service Agency  
Washington/Clark FSA Office  
196 E. Tabernacle  
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